



# Fact Sheet

Sept. 1, 2016

## **USCIS Awards Fiscal Year 2016 Citizenship and Integration Grants**

*Nearly \$10 Million Will Expand Citizenship Preparation Services in 21 States*

### **Introduction**

On Sept. 1, 2016, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced the award of nearly \$10 million in grants under two competitive funding opportunities to 46 organizations to help permanent residents prepare and apply for U.S. citizenship. The organizations are located in 21 states and will receive funding through September 2018.

### **Background**

Since it began in 2009, the USCIS [Citizenship and Integration Grant Program](#) has awarded a total of \$63 million through 308 competitive grants to immigrant-serving organizations in 37 states and the District of Columbia. Now in its eighth year, the program has helped more than 156,000 permanent residents prepare for citizenship.

USCIS anticipates that approximately 25,000 permanent residents will receive citizenship preparation services by Sept. 30, 2018, as a result of the fiscal year (FY) 2016 awards issued through the grant program. An additional 12,000 permanent residents will be served under the ongoing FY 2015 program, which continues through Sept. 30, 2017.

The first grant opportunity supports organizations that provide citizenship instruction and naturalization legal services. The second opportunity, new this year, will support citizenship education programs at eligible community-based organizations, with no requirement to provide naturalization legal services. The second opportunity sought to encourage the expansion of the existing field of citizenship instruction programs, particularly those offered by small, community-based organizations that have not previously received a grant from USCIS.

### **Grant Recipient Organizations**

Under the Citizenship Instruction and Naturalization Application Services funding opportunity, DHS-16-CIS-010-002, recipients are public or private nonprofit organizations with recent experience providing citizenship instruction and naturalization application services to permanent residents. The organizations include community and faith-based groups, public libraries, adult education organizations, and literacy organizations.

Under the Citizenship Instruction funding opportunity, DHS-16-CIS-010-001, recipients are public or private nonprofit organizations that are local in scope and service delivery area and that have at least one year experience providing ESL instruction in a classroom setting that follows a curriculum. The organizations include faith-based groups, and community and literacy organizations.

The FY 2016 recipient organizations serve both traditional immigrant destinations and new immigrant

gateway cities in 21 states. The grant recipients will provide citizenship preparation services to approximately 25,000 permanent residents from more than 50 countries. The recipients represent:

- Seventeen of the top 20 states with the largest permanent resident populations (California, New York, Texas, Florida, New Jersey, Illinois, Massachusetts, Virginia, Washington, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Michigan, North Carolina, Connecticut, Ohio Minnesota and Colorado);
- Nine of the top 10 metropolitan areas with the most new permanent residents in the past 10 years (New York City; Los Angeles; Miami; Washington, D.C.; Chicago; San Francisco; Houston; Dallas-Fort Worth; and Boston); and
- Nine of the top 10 states with the most naturalizations over the last 10 years (California, New York, Florida, Texas, New Jersey, Illinois, Massachusetts, Virginia and Washington).

### **FY 2016 Grant Recipients**

Grant recipients (in alphabetical order):

#### **DHS-16-CIS-010-002**

#### ***Citizenship Instruction and Naturalization Application Services***

##### **Organization**

Access California Services  
Ansob Center for Refugees, Inc.  
Baltimore City Community College  
Boat People SOS, Inc.  
Brooklyn Public Library  
Catholic Charities of Central Texas  
Catholic Charities of Dallas, Inc.  
Catholic Charities of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa  
Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Stockton  
Catholic Migration Services, Inc.  
Central American Resource Center  
Chinese American Service League, Inc.  
Church World Service, Inc.  
City of Littleton  
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon  
Hartford Public Library  
Hispanic Unity of Florida, Inc.  
Hope Community Center, Inc.  
International Rescue Committee, Inc.  
Jewish Family & Children's Service, Inc.  
Jewish Vocational Service of Metrowest, Inc.  
La Casa de Don Pedro  
Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13  
Lutheran Social Services of Metropolitan New York  
Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota

##### **Location**

Anaheim, Calif.  
Astoria, N.Y.  
Baltimore, Md.  
Houston, Texas  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Austin, Texas  
Dallas, Texas  
San Bernardino, Calif.  
Santa Rosa, Calif.  
Stockton, Calif.  
Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Washington, D.C.  
Chicago, Ill.  
Greensboro, N.C.  
Littleton, Colo.  
Portland, Ore.  
Hartford, Conn.  
Hollywood, Fla.  
Apopka, Fla.  
Glendale, Calif.  
Pittsburgh, Pa.  
East Orange, N.J.  
Newark, N.J.  
Lancaster, Pa.  
New York, N.Y.  
Sioux Falls, S.D.

Mid-Minnesota Legal Assistance	Minneapolis, Minn.
Nashville Adult Literacy Council, Inc.	Nashville, Tenn.
Neighborhood House, Inc.	Seattle, Wash.
Northern Manhattan Coalition for Immigrant Rights	New York, N.Y.
Polish American Association	Chicago, Ill.
Tacoma Community House	Tacoma, Wash.
The City University of New York	New York, N.Y.
United Methodist Cooperative Ministries/Suncoast, Inc.	Largo, Fla.
US Together	Columbus, Ohio
Young Men's Christian Association of the Greater Houston Area, Inc.	Houston, Texas

**DHS-16-CIS-010-001**  
***Citizenship Instruction***

**Organization**

Catholic Charities Community Services  
Chaldean Community Foundation  
Chinese Community Center, Inc.  
Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services  
Irish International Immigrant Center, Inc.  
Literacy Chicago  
Literacy New Jersey  
Pacific Gateway Center  
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants, Inc.  
Vietnamese American Community Center of the East Bay

**Location**

New York, N.Y.  
Sterling Heights, Mich.  
Houston, Texas  
Columbus, Ohio  
Boston, Mass.  
Chicago, Ill.  
Edison, N.J.  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
Colchester, Vt.  
Oakland, Calif.

**Review Process**

As part of the grant review process, USCIS reviewed more than 160 eligible applications using three-member teams of internal reviewers to evaluate each proposal. In total, 51 USCIS reviewers participated in this process. The reviewers scored applications numerically using published evaluation criteria. USCIS rank ordered the applications under each funding opportunity based on their average scores. The USCIS internal review panel determined the final list of recipients based on the rank order as well as the published strategic program priorities found on page 34 of the [notice of funding opportunity for DHS-16-CIS-010-002](#) and on page 25 of the notice of [funding opportunity for DHS-16-CIS-010-001](#).

**Contact Information**

For additional information on the Citizenship and Integration Grant Program, please contact the USCIS Office of Citizenship at [citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov) or visit [uscis.gov/grants](http://uscis.gov/grants).

To learn more about applying for federal funding opportunities, visit [grants.gov](http://grants.gov) or call 800-518-4726.